IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of extracting a fingerprint from ~~a multimedia~~ an audio signal, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

extracting ~~(12,13)~~ a set of robust perceptual features from the ~~multimedia~~ audio signal;

subjecting ~~(15)~~ the extracted set of features to a Fourier-Mellin transform to compensate for speed changes in the audio signal; and

converting ~~(16,19)~~ the transformed set of features into a sequence constituting the fingerprint.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said converting ~~step~~ includes converting ~~(16,ABS)~~ the magnitudes of the Fourier-Mellin transform.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said converting ~~step~~ includes converting ~~(16,.DELTA..phi.)~~ ~~the~~ a derivative of the phase of the Fourier-Mellin transform.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the multimedia signal is an audio signal and said~~ Fourier-Mellin transform includes a one-dimensional log mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the audio signal forms part of ~~multimedia signal is~~ an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a two-dimensional log-polar mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the audio signal forms part of ~~multimedia signal is~~ an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform

includes a two-dimensional log-log mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said extracting ~~step~~ includes normalization of the set of perceptual features.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for extracting a fingerprint from ~~a multimedia~~ an audio signal, the apparatus comprising:

means ~~(12,13)~~ for extracting a set of robust perceptual features from the ~~multimedia~~ audio signal;

means ~~(15)~~ for subjecting the extracted set of features to a Fourier-Mellin transform to compensate for speed changes in the audio signal;

means ~~(16,19)~~ for converting the transformed set of features into a sequence constituting the fingerprint.

9. (New) An apparatus to extract a fingerprint from an audio signal, the apparatus comprising:

an extracting circuit to extract a set of robust perceptual features from the audio signal;

a transform circuit to subject the extracted set of features to a Fourier-Mellin transform to compensate for speed changes in the audio signal; and

a converting circuit to convert the transformed set of features into a sequence constituting the fingerprint.

10. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the magnitudes of the Fourier-Mellin transform are converted.

11. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein a derivative of the phase of the Fourier-Mellin transform is converted.

12. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the Fourier-Mellin transform includes a one-dimensional log mapping process applied to the set of perceptual features.

13. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the audio signal forms part of an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a two-dimensional log-polar mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

14. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the audio signal forms part of an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a two-dimensional log-log mapping process applied to the set of perceptual features.

15. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the extracting circuit is configured to normalize the set of perceptual features.